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FEATURES

# Winchester kicks off holidays with annual tree lighting

Winchester residents turned out Friday night for the annual tree lighting celebration put on by the Chamber of Commerce. It was a night featuring the All School Chorus with sing-a-longs for attendees. The evening also included hot chocolate and pastries

NELL ESCOBAR COAKLEY | STAFF WRITER and TARA HUGHES | STAFF WRITER

December 7, 2024 . 7:13 PM — 3 min read

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Winchester residents on the town common for the annual tree lighting celebration put on by the Winchester Chamber of Commerce. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

Winchester residents turned out Friday night for the annual tree lighting celebration put on by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Sogno car draws a crowd at the tree lighting Dec. 6 on the town common. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

It was a night featuring the All School Chorus with sing-a-longs for attendees.

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The All School Chorus sings ‘Feliz Navidad’ at the annual tree lighting celebration. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF VIDEO/TARA HUGHES

And check out the All Chorus rendition of 'Frosty the Snowman' from the same night. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF VIDEO/TARA HUGHES

The evening also included hot chocolate and cookies from Sogno and the Winchester Co-operative Bank, the lead sponsor of the annual week-long Holiday Stroll.

Winchester residents enjoy complimentary pastries and hot chocolate on a cold night. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

Also at the tree lighting was special guest Olaf, who took lots of photos at the photo booth.

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Olaf waves to the crowd at the photo booth Friday night, Dec. 6 at the tree lighting celebration. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

Residents also took in the lit up streets around the town common and all along the downtown area.

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Downtown Winchester is festive with all the holiday lights lit up! WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTOS/TARA HUGHES

And of course, residents all checked out the town common, read the tree lighting.

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Winchester residents at the town common enjoy the holiday atmosphere. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

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The trees are lit! WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/TARA HUGHES

Check out our video the trees lit on the common — in case you missed it!

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Winchester town common is all lit up, with excitement from families and lights. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF VIDEO/TARA HUGHES

Did you attend the tree lighting? How about the Holiday Stroll? Share your photos with us at editor@winchesternews.org with the subject line Winchester Holidays.

*Winchester News is a non-profit organization supported by our community. If you appreciate having local Winchester news, please donate to support our work, and subscribe to our free weekly newsletter.*

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## ‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

## Celebrating Black history and culture with art, reflection, and community

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: The Winchester community came together last week at the Griffin Museum of Photography for the inaugural Black History and Culture Celebration, an evening filled with music, student creativity, and powerful messages about equity, unity, and the enduring legacy of Black

March 3, 2026

FEATURES

## Winchester residents share more snow photos

Well, Winchester, we made it through the weekend with only a coating of snow that

FEATURES

## Winchester Community Music School set to expand, upgrade

The big events in Winchest Music School always take place in Nichols

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amounted to nothing on Sunday afternoon. But during the Feb. 22-23 blizzard, Winchester News once again asked residents to send their snow photos. And here is what we received! Solmaz Amirnazmi said her daughters and

NELL ESCOBAR COAKLEY | STAFF WRITER

March 2, 2026

Performance Hall. With the school and its performances' growing in popularity, the hall and many of its amenities are due for an upgrade. The performance hall is one of the main areas that the school seeks to

TAVISHI CHATTOPADHYAY | CORRESPONDENT

February 26, 2026

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EVENTS

## Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

## Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

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FEATURES

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SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

EVENTS

## Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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